

Atty's 21927

Pat. App. Not known - US phase of PCT/EP00/00444

In the revised claims:

Cancel all the claims in the case.

Add the following claims:

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1 -- 7. An apparatus for shrinking a foil wrapped about a  
2 stack of objects and projecting vertically past an end of the  
3 stack, the apparatus comprising:

a frame extending vertically adjacent the stack;

means including a heater vertically displaceable on the directed at the wrapped stack for shrinking the foil  
t;

a nozzle centered vertically on the stack and having an array of outlets directed generally vertically and out-the end of the stack; and

means for supplying a gas under pressure to the nozzle  
venting respective jets of the gas from the openings at the  
end past the end for erecting the foil extending past

8. The foil-shrinking apparatus defined in claim 7  
the nozzle has an annular face extending at an acute angle  
face and formed with the outlets.

9. The foil-shrinking apparatus defined in claim 7  
the face and outlets extend at an angle of about 45° to a  
centerline of the stack.

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1           10. The foil-shrinking apparatus defined in claim 7,  
2    further comprising  
3           means for vertically moving the nozzle toward and away  
4    from the stack.

1           11. The foil-shrinking apparatus defined in claim 7  
2    wherein the end is the upper end and the stack has a lower end past  
3    which the foil also extends, the apparatus further comprising:  
4           a second such nozzle connected to the means and directed  
5    at the lower end for erecting the foil extending therewith.

1           12. The foil-shrinking apparatus defined in claim 7,  
2    further comprising:  
3           means for pressing the foil against the stack as the foil  
4    is shrunk around the stack.

1           13. The foil-shrinking apparatus defined in claim 12,  
2    further comprising  
3           means including a lift table for raising the pressing  
4    means.

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